



# Illuminations

The Newsletter of the Glass Guild of Guelph - October 2014

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
FOR THE NEXT MEETING



## Next Meeting:

### NOTE CHANGE OF TIME & LOCATION

**Tuesday, October 7, 2014**  
**7:00—9:00 pm at Heather's Workshop**

**NOTE: Change of location for this meeting only:  
Heather's Workshop—  
3 Eastview Dr., Guelph**

**We will do a "hands-on" review of decorative soldering. Bring your soldering iron, some foiled pieces, some solder & flux, and of course your coffee mug, or just sit back and watch!**

**Also, George Loney will drop in to help anyone who is finding the website a challenge. Bring photos on a memory stick if you want to get them uploaded by George.**

**As always, bring in your "show and tell" items.**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Have you ever designed a pattern, and had in mind exactly what you wanted the finished project to look like? You know in your mind what colour glass you need and what textures will do exactly what you want ..... only to find out you don't have that glass in your supply? That of course means a trip to whatever glass supplier you deal with for a purchase.

You walk into the store and explain to the clerk / owner what you want. They start looking and pulling out samples but nothing is quite right. Suddenly you find out that even THEY don't have what you want.

I recently had this experience. The shop staff was helpful and made suggestions for me to consider. They even went to far as to order / pick out sheets of glass from catalogues that they thought would work. Then I returned a week later to see what they had obtained.

I spent some time looking at the choices they got for me and quite honestly thought "oh no..... none of this is quite what I wanted.....what do I do now?"

But then the clerk started talking and showing me some things in the glass that I had not noticed before... how the colours swirled on this side and made the glass look alive; how the subtleties of the different shades looked so different in the light; how the shades and textures on this glass would be awesome for different things. All of a sudden I started looking at their offerings in a different way. I realized that I had become caught in a rut of only thinking a certain colour or texture of glass would work. I forgot about how my vision could be changed... perhaps for the better... by trying something different.

I ended up purchasing 4-5 different glasses.... and believe me they are NOT in the colours /textures / shading I first envisioned for my piece. BUT I am very happy with my purchases, and can hardly wait to get started on my *revised* project.

Sometimes we all are guilty of getting caught in a rut. We don't always see what is in front of us and it takes someone else to point out what is obvious to them. I think that is one of the wonderful things that I appreciate the most about being involved in the Glass Guild of Guelph.... there is always someone who will look at things in a different way than I have. I continually learn so much from all in our Guild who have been generous enough to share THEIR vision and insight. I look forward to continuing to grow in my craft, as I share with and learn from all of you.

Happy Glassing!! *Karen*

## Poppy Project & Challenge

As mentioned at our last member's meeting, we have been approached by the Col. John McRae House and Guelph Museum to possibly supply some glass items for sale and display. The purpose would be to help commemorate the centennial anniversary of the composition of "In Flanders Fields" by John McRae. This anniversary is coming up in 2015.

Although these items are not required for some months, and our discussions regarding this are still ongoing, the executive decided to get your creative juices flowing by challenging members to come up with a poppy project on your own. Your project can be done from any type and style of glass work, totally designed by you or from a pattern.

You are challenged to finish this project in time for our November meeting (the 4th), which would also coincide closely with Remembrance Day. There is a possibility of having some of these items displayed in the Artisan Store window or other venues that we are investigating. More on that at the next meeting!

Here are some links and photos to get you inspired, and for those of you who are suffering from artists block:

<http://www.davidelliottstainedglass.co.uk/gallery/poppies.php>

<http://www.everything-stained-glass.com/stain-glass-poppies.html>

[https://www.google.ca/search?](https://www.google.ca/search?q=poppies&biw=1280&bih=685&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=cHgtVIKlK4uVvYASkh4CIBg&sqi=2&ved=0CAYQ_AUoAQ)

[q=poppies&biw=1280&bih=685&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=cHgtVIKlK4uVvYASkh4CIBg&sqi=2&ved=0CAYQ\\_AUoAQ](https://www.google.ca/search?q=poppies&biw=1280&bih=685&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=cHgtVIKlK4uVvYASkh4CIBg&sqi=2&ved=0CAYQ_AUoAQ)



Recently we sent out an email featuring the poppy installation happening at the Tower of London in London, England. (thanks Karen S. for bringing that to our attention). Here is a link to the YouTube video of that project in the making:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58aX\\_EBwzr4#t=41](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58aX_EBwzr4#t=41)



# Solder and Soldering

Here is a little refresher on solder and soldering. The information has been extracted from a number of sources.

Solder is a metal alloy usually made of tin (Sn) and lead (Pb) although there is such a thing as lead free solder. The proportion of the two metals affects the melting point of the solder. Most suitable for stained glass is 60/40 (60% tin, 40% lead). The chart below shows you the melting points for various combinations of solder.

% Tin	% Lead	Melting Point
0	100	621F
30	70	496F
97	0 (3% copper)	Approx. 425F
50	50	421F
60	40	375F
63	37	361F

Source – *Fantasy in Glass Fig Helper #8*

If the amount of tin to lead passes the 63% mark, the melting point begins to rise again to where it is 450F at 100% tin so 63/37 solder has the absolute lowest melting point.

Have you ever had black specks or pits on your solder line? These result from dross (dirt) rising to the surface of the soldered seam. This “dirt” can come from several sources:

- poor quality solder where the contaminated alloys or substandard processing conditions during manufacturing can produce solders that give undesirable results;
- contaminated flux, if your flux is cloudy, discard it; or
- oxidized/dirty foil or came, if your came or copper foil appears discoloured, clean it by gently rubbing it with fine steel wool. REMEMBER to wipe off your work with a clean soft cloth to remove any dust before you solder. Store your foil in sealed plastic bags when not in use to prevent oxidization from occurring.

For best results:

- start with well fitting pieces
- ensure foil is evenly applied and burnished to each glass piece
- always solder a beaded seam immediately after tinning the surface because the metal oxidizes quickly and becomes more difficult to bead.
- once a lead joint or a copper seam is soldered, allow it to cool undisturbed. Vibration during cooling encourages large lead crystals to form within the seam, weakening the entire solder bond.

No drip through. To prevent solder “drip through” when soldering copper foil seams, use 50/50 solder to first tin-coat the seam on both sides. Then apply 60/40 to create a raised bead seam. The theory is that drip through is eliminated because 60/40 solder melts at a lower temperature than 50/50. The trick is to not overwork or overheat the seam with repeated passes of the soldering iron along the beaded seam line.

Source: *Solder Sculpting and More* by Kay Bain Weiner (We have this book in the Guild Library).

## Upcoming Dates to Remember



**Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014**— Our November meeting features guest speaker Nan Hogg, who will guide us through colour theory. We also want you to bring in your completed poppy project for show and tell and possible inclusion in some city window displays.

**Remember**—meetings are now on the first Tuesday of each month (no more alternating between Tues/Thurs)

**Guelph Youth Music Centre**— Guild members have a chance to have some pieces included in the show starting Nov. 7. Speak with Karen or Heather.

**Website**—Don't forget to keep your member's page up to date. Change your pictures, give your page a fresh look. If you have forgotten or misplaced your user name and password, contact Jean at: [info@jeanloney.com](mailto:info@jeanloney.com)



## Disposal of Small Glass Pieces

Did you know.....if you reside in the City of Guelph and you want to dispose of those many small bits of glass we all end up with, you are to put them in a container marked "sharp objects" and then place the container inside your grey waste cart for pickup



**Glass Around The World—**

**Can you name the location of this stained glass window?**

**See answer below.**

Title: Tree of Life  
Artist: Susan Point  
Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, B.C.

## 2013/2014 Guild Information and Contacts

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month. Meeting headquarters: Knox Presbyterian Church on Paisley Street, Downtown Guelph. Scheduled off-site workshops or trips to studios are often substituted for our meetings.

President: Karen Bellamy  
Vice-President:  
Treasurer: Linda McCorkindale  
Secretary: Heather Robinson  
Membership: Chris Heffernan  
Newsletter: Diane Mihok  
Website: Jean Loney

Guild email: [info@glassguildofguelph.ca](mailto:info@glassguildofguelph.ca) or [president@glassguildofguelph.ca](mailto:president@glassguildofguelph.ca)  
Website: <http://www.glassguildofguelph.ca>



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